
Subject: Re: Object programming with data...

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 18 May 2002 14:39:45 GMT

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Randall Skelton (rshkelto@atm.ox.ac.uk) writes:

- > I think I have found a bug in the IDL object programming interface which
- > may help explain why there are no IDL object programming books. While IDL
- > claims to support methods, there appears to be no mechanism for operator
- > overloading!?! Pardon my ignorance, but in a scientific programming
- > language, what is the point supporting data encapsulation without operator
- > overloading?
- > ...
- > We can talk about Methods, polymorphism, inheritance and persistence until
- > we are all blue in the face, but without the ability to define operator
- > methods the usefulness of IDL in programming with data is rather limited.

I can't speak for others, but one reason I haven't written a object programming book because it is damn hard to write a book, and too easy to play tennis and enjoy my marriage. Another reason is that I just keep plowing on, finding all kinds of reasons to like objects, amazed at their unbelievable usefulness, and completely unaware of these glaring limitations. Imagine how embarrassed I would be to write a book that didn't even mention operator overloading! I would be the laughing stock of the OO community. :-(

Cheers,

David

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